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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 A non-contact optoelectronic system for an automatic vehicle door  
closure to detect the presence of an obstruction and a method of detecting the  
presence of the obstruction. The non-contact optoelectronic system includes at least  
one transmitter for emitting an electromagnetic energy signal and at least one sensor  
15 for detecting the electromagnetic energy signal emitted by the at least one  
transmitter. A control module in communication with the at least one transmitter  
and at least one sensor monitors and processes the signal interrupts detected by the  
at least one sensor to sense an obstruction between the at least one transmitter and  
at least one sensor. The control module generates a motor control signal to stop and  
20 open a vehicle door upon detection of an obstruction between the at least one  
transmitter and at least one sensor.

005231 52015250